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ORATION.

Delivered on the 42d anniversary of American Independence, in the Representatives' Chamber, in the city of Washington, by Alexander Anderson, Esq.

FELLOW CITIZENS:

Convinced of my inability to do justice to your wishes, nothing but a confidence that the same generous spirit which dictated your courtesy, would continue to attend me throughout this occasion, could have induced or justified my acceptance of the honor you have conferred. Believe me, it is an honor I shall always appreciate with the most friendly recollection. And when I see before me the collected beauty and wisdom of the metropolis, embellished, as it is, with the refinements of taste and erudition, I willingly throw myself upon your liberality and benevolence.

It has been the custom of other nations to immortalize their achievements, by consecrating them to public observance. On recurring to history, you will find the two most splendid republics that ever adorned its page, preserved their character as long as they had virtue enough left to celebrate its event. The enjoyment and the commemoration have, uniformly, sunk together in one common grave. That rational enthusiasm, which gives birth to independence, must, necessarily, continue to superinduce life and permanency, or else it will degenerate into a worthless name. Nor is there any thing more inspiring to its principles, than a fixed and annual return to the remembrance of its era. In this way, the mind is most seriously fraught with the traits of its grandeur. The imagination is lighted up by the sublime picture of a revolution. It wanders through its scenes to denote the passions by which it is distinguished. Virtue is seen struggling with vice; and from national heroism there is an easy transition to the more precisely delineated portraits of personal greatness. Facts are deduced from these combined images, to which the judgment yields, and by which life may be regulated. In short, there is a peculiarity of effect, to which we can only appeal by experience. For we may learn to turn from our backslidings, at an hour like this, when the conscience is awakened into a grateful sense of nationality, to the scenes of a holy war, and the wide desultory shades of political variation that, since that epoch, have successively taken place of each other.

Nor, at this moment, will the mind pause entirely upon the retrospect. Forever on the wing of experiment and research, it will take its way into futurity, and among the concealed depths of causes and effects, endeavor to penetrate into the succeeding history of our country. The chapter in which is inscribed the glories of our ancestry, and to which we have recently added a supplement, is not sufficient for the "vast exploring eye" of the patriot to dwell on in content and admiration. To make it truly dear to his heart and lovely to his fancy, he must unceasingly imitate, for it is not possible to transcend, its excellence. He must, at once, strive to follow the good and great example of his forefathers, and to deserve, at some distant day, the appella-

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tion of an equal, by protecting their household relics.

To speak in the rigorous language of truth, ours is the earliest and the only distinct model of a perfectly rational equality in government. It has not been owing, however, to any fault of the human mind. The fears and necessities of men, on which, we are told, are built the steepest foundations of legal connections, have unfairly been converted into the potent means of their subservency to the more powerful. In the primitive ages of creation, liberty was an easy and an almost uninterrupted possession, under a patriarchal dominion. There were no local and contagious compressions of society. Individual authority grew up, rather as a matter of paternal inheritance, than as a conquered condition, or, in the least, as an accident of power. And, although it has ever been domineering in its sway, even in all times have appeared some faint glimmerings of the spirit of liberty. Nevertheless, I esteem it a correct position, and one I shall attempt to vindicate in this address, that a gradual social progression was essential to the production of a just and liberal constitution of government. And I assume it as equally true, that, the consequences cannot be obviated. The symptoms of this orderly improvement have been as variable as violent. Revolution has accumulated on revolution, but as often terminated in the rashness of anarchy, or the disappointments of what is inconsiderately termed a rebellion. A few lucid intervals of aristocracy or democracy, like the fierce and evanescent lightning that flashes through a lowering atmosphere, have, now and then, broken in upon the despotism of the world. But, it has been reserved for us to reason and to act upon the possibility of sustaining a republic. I acknowledge it has been conceded, if it were difficult and dangerous to establish, it is even more doubtful and perilous to preserve. The uncontroverted orthodoxy of this axiom, and the fact, that no such system has ever endured the ravages of years, and the inroads of corruption, are the chief circumstances that have gained plausibility to the doctrines of the enemies of mankind. But those of us who bottom a different opinion upon this theory, ought to go a little further. We would discern there are no conclusions against us, to be drawn from prior institutions. History has produced no parallel to our own. All that has existed, seems to have been removed, to make way for something better. We may search in vain for a counterpart—no where has the mouldering hand of time rested without decay, or the storms of faction played without effect. For where is the crown that has not been shattered? And, as if the conviction should not be resisted, while, too, the monuments of ancient liberty have tumbled into a heap of chaotic and undistinguished fragments, how much more exalted is the new creation that has risen upon their fall!—I mean morally and politically.

What then do you conjecture of the progress of society? Do you not suppose, that for ages to come, as it has for ages that are gone, owing to the same natural, self-existent and inextinguishable power, it will continue with a gorgeous, yet

clear, though variant, still purer splendor, to shed its light upon the track of civilization? Who is it can question this? Have you not observed, already the accelerated procession of civilization? Not that dim-ey'd civilization, whose lustrous vigor is scorched by the noxious blaze of wealth, or which blooms and flowers beneath the rays of royalty; but that which spreads its beauties under the wholesome tree of freedom, and covers within the celestial wing of peace. Look to America! Here, a happy state of renovated existence offers, to my mind, the consequent effects of the progress of society. A society which has had its infancy, its youth its manhood; and which must, finally, arrive at a point of perfection, on whose pinnacle it will tower in the latter days, with the charms of religion and philosophy, encircling and sublimating its transit to eternity.

But let us, casually, inquire of its origin and development. There was Abraham, who was a Patriarch! This was the hour of its infancy! The next most prominent was Solomon, who was a King! *Anterior to and from this time*, the human race was smitten with a rod, and in whatever quarter they planted the standard of their dominion, they also, raised the altar of *homage* to an ephemeral creature. At once, in Asia, in Africa, in Europe, and, for aught we know, at that very period, in America, the mitre and the sceptre glittered above the humbled head of the peasant! This, perhaps, was the state of youth. Its effervescence had not subsided, its ambition was less restrained, its intellect benighted by the prejudices of ignorance, and, yet, lost amid the impervious and unexplored regions of knowledge. At length, another age, emerging from the dark and dreary wildernesses of a mental enthrallment, is beheld laying the substrata of a new order, in Athens, in Thebes, in Sparta, in Carthage, and in Rome. Here, we may mark the lineaments of a partial manhood. Unquestionably, this was nearly its epoch. But it was now, that the most powerful change of all commenced a sort of supernatural operation. An event, upon which depended in my opinion, not merely, what has followed, but on which depends what is still to come. It was at this peculiar crisis, that christianity was introduced, as the efficient handmaid to human improvement. The midnight of error, which so shortly succeeded, was like the gloomy moment, that is the omen, and precedes the dawning of day—it foreboded the inevitable, however protracted, graduation of the political universe. Upon this it is I build my political faith. History maintains it. Indeed, herein, our own experience is satisfactory. And although I differ on this subject from many, to whom I accord the superior claims of talent and of learning, to me there is ample reason to conclude, that, liberty, which is on the march, the inseparable companion of civilization, and civilization of christianity, never, no never—never can recede! It may sometimes halt in the paroxysms of a violent struggle; but it will, sooner or later, recover and pursue its course with a steadier and loftier step; and, from age to age, the cloven-footed altars of despotism must, one after the other, totter to the earth, till the grand spectacle of rational equality unfolds its banners, to the millions that are now unborn.

To a mind unaccustomed to survey the scenes of human history, all this may form a subject of curious and doubtful speculation! But no one,

who considers the course of events, will arraign deductions founded upon the deepest principles of human nature: A nature capable of an unknown extension in its attainments; for, the more it is dilated and acted upon, the more it will receive and perform.

Perchance, as to ourselves, the grudging bigot would start his futile objection. Perhaps, he would say, "*your darling republic is not safe, whatever may be the logical accuracy of your calculation as to others!*" How heartless the feeling! How brainless the suggestion! What, America! Has she not before her the lights of all antiquity, and around her the guardian spirit of reformation! She may tread onward fearless of aberration, guided and protected in the glory of her passage, by the Beacon of the past and the Genius of the present! What was it that agitated the investigation of right on this side of the water? Was it a mad devotion to the memory of Peloponnessus! Or to the fame of the triumphs of Roman valor, that extended, not only over all Italy, but reached to the banks of the Indus? No! Though they may have been accessory to the enlargement of the intellectual energies, and hung out as signals to mankind, by which to steer, they never could, of themselves, have excited, at so distant a recollection, the mighty passion of a revolution. *Modern Europe may look to them*, we must look to *Modern Europe!* We have borrowed from her, what she received there, and taken, besides, her own workmanship, without any of its clogs. We took it, not alone to venerate, but to improve. Such has been the gradation.

But do not mistake me as to Europe—I would not even be suspected of bestowing upon a modern heap of groaning tyrannies, the unqualified praise of moral elevation. I could not so much violate my own conscience. I would not so grossly insult your feelings. However the constitution of man may have elicited its finer qualities on this continent, and the general condition of society exceeds the most prosperous state that existed at any previous period, to Europe, at present, we advert with the lamentable forebodings of some dreadful concussion. Alas! such appears to have been the destiny of man, that the amalgamated terrors of vice should gather about the remnants of virtue, preparatory to their awful dissolution! So it will be with the enslaved, stipendiary, partitioned Europe. Behold Ireland, at whose name the Patriot, the Saint, the Philosopher, the Orator, and the Poet, kindled with a melancholy admiration, holds out the deplorable testimony of this prophetic truth. For, of all the Isles that encircle, and all the countries that cover that vast tract, Ireland, clinging with an unrivalled martyrdom to the sanctity of her piety, and the purity of her patriotism, is the most durable monument of the effect, and not long hence will be too a monument of the fate of oppression and abuse, where reform is rejected by the hand of intolerance and of despotism. All record proves it to be the course of humanity—recur to our situation in seventy-six, if not as aggravated, at any rate, an additional and irrevocable proof. But it is true, there was a shorter step to our revolution, for, when the sovereign of Britain surrendered to the British people the charter of their rights, he resigned to the mercy of America the crown of his successors.

And here let us retire a moment from the

decadence in Europe, where the hopes of youth and the comforts of age are weighed down by the physical preponderance of prostituted worth to a contemplation of the ascendancy of that political moderation which has risen amongst us the proudest mausoleum of the old world, and the dearest possession of the new. In this pleasant prospect, we have great and serious cause of congratulation. Once a colony, now an important empire, we must be sensible of the immediate difference between receiving a governor in a state of subjugation, and commissioning a minister to that very court from whose maternal bosom we were discarded. We must readily perceive the increased consequence derived, even then, at an uncertain conjecture of our affairs, from alliances with nations "not afraid of doing right, for fear of doing." In a provincial dependence, it was very humiliating, that a princely dignitary, or some honorable exile of the mother country, "stuck o'er with titles, and hung round with strings," should wield the supreme executive authority. *The royal assent, too, was another odious feature.* But it is a redoubled gratification to us all, that, no matter in what shape the iron clawed monster of tyranny made his appearance, the people knew how to detect, and when to resist him. A stamp tax; a declaration of authority, a tea tax; & as it happened to be, a wily, but impolitic discrimination of commercial duties, did not gain the credulous submission of a filial loyalty! Yet it was expected! The English ministry of the day seem to have acted on the illusion of the fantastic theory, that "the human species degenerated in America." Vain and foolish statesmen! to imagine that with their professions of kindness staring them in the face, they might play off upon the patriots the deceptions of an artful hypocrisy! Verily, they were too precipitate in their designs! Notwithstanding the energetic aid we had given to the mother country in her conflicts upon our continent, for which we received her thanks, the accents of peace were not hushed upon her lips, before she conceived the wicked project of an unnatural and sanguinary war. In vain had Franklin warned the ministry of attempting to subvert a brave and a free people. They had heard it from him in the language of admonition, that the Americans voluntarily preferred their own to foreign manufactures; that they had restricted themselves to the exclusive use of domestic growths! This was the spirit of '75—the spirit of '76—the good old spirit throughout the revolution! Every class revered it; every man, woman, and child, boasted of it! Happily for us, this spirit existed. Their resources were feeble, and they required all the strength of unity and all the effect of co-operation.

But mark, I beseech you, the predominance of their *social progression* over every difficulty and misfortune. I believe you will meet with a full illustration of the doctrine I have advanced.

For liberty, they forsook the beatitude and avocations of peace. Nor did they pine or sicken at the change! The hut of the poor and the mansion of the rich were, in turns converted from the seat of the convivial banquet, and the shelter of grey hairs and of innocence, into the soldier's garrison and the scenes of a tumultuous warfare. No longer can the peasant hang upon his plough, and pause in silent delight at the sweet and silvered modulations of the little feathered songster. He can no more enjoy, in secure amazement, the

clear and perennial stream, that reflects the perfect image of the verdure that embraces its banks. He must forget, too, the chase, and direct his pursuit to a more formidable object. All the allurements of the country, the deep, still, and meditative solitude that pervades its retreat, is broken in upon, by the peals of the drum, and the shrill-toned echoes of the war horn! Even the wild flowers of the wood deaden upon the eye, and their "delicious breathing odour" palls upon the sense! The home is a desert; the family in a temporary orphanage; and the wife, perhaps, clasping an infant to her breast, trembling and sighing for the next news the passing messenger may bear. Merciful Heaven! how awful is the predestination of thy providence! But thus, it often happens, "evil is permitted that good may come of it." Yet how arduous was the trial! The father and the child mingled in the holy cause, and beheld the life pledges of this earth's endearment staked upon the issue. On one hand, they saw the chains which were forged to fetter them, if they tamely yielded; and, on the other, if they were baffled, their wives, daughters, sisters, and themselves, the protectless victims of a military rage, and of a civil despotism. Oh! how wonderfully did they bear this test of their nature—and how glorious was their triumph. The stormy powers of their spirit had been roused into an incessant and tremendous agitation! Every faculty was awakened from the torpid lethargy in which it had slept, under the lulling intrigue of deceptive promises—But the pressure had been as long as violent; the re-action was, in proportion, as resistless as determinate! A rebellion had been sounded from quarter to quarter; but, in effect, it was the contributive vengeance of a revolution, terribly rolling its fires through the castles and sequestered haunts of affrighted royalty! An engaged, irreconcilable, and oppressed people, had risen their strength! No menace could intimidate them; no offering could appease them, except its incense smoked from the hallowed altar of liberty. Did they hear to-day the sign and the seal of pardon, tendered as the price of their service and their desertion? They unhesitatingly spurned it, with an indignant valor, that denied, even, to the persecutor, the pleasure of reproach, and took from the Spartan the proverb of his virtue! Nor was there any modification of misery, however horrid, they were unfit, or unwilling to endure. Did discomfiture embarrass them? They smiled at the incident, and organized themselves afresh. Did death present itself? They braced to its stroke, as they looked to Heaven with a complacent firmness. What did they care, if commerce stopped, and the doors of business closed? On the ocean, they repaid themselves in the traffic of the spoiler, and the merchant and the customer, together, mounted the cockade and shouldered the musket. At a moment like this, big with the birth of freedom, what was it to them, if agriculture held but a debilitated pace beneath the pitiless peltings of fortune, while yet, here and there, detached bands of men might be seen, alternately, tilling the ground, and, led by some daring hero, lending an occasional aid to their courageous comrades? What was it to them, if vicissitude sported in the contest? Their purpose was fixed; their trust unbroken; bearing aloft the shield and the weapon of their rights, they pressed forward to conquest or to death—

"Fortune her smiles may variously dispose,
And these be happy called, unhappy those,
But Heaven's just balance equal will appear,
While those are placed in hope, and these in fear,
Not present good or ill, the joy or curse,
But future views of better or of worse."

Now, it is very easy for us all that the tempest is over, and there is no hidden wrath for us, to proclaim the course, the only course, it was safe for our fathers to take. But then the path of security appeared to be the certain conductor to destruction; for, even then, the timid faltered at the report of every defeat, although, from its consequences, the resolute counted on imperishable victory! And, it is not a little surprising, the politicians of England who chose to discriminate between right and wrong, between the difference of an insurrection and a revolution, between a child writhing in a mother's arms, and a full grown youth parrying the murderous blow of a parent, predicted, from the successful triumphs of the English, the total loss of their power. So predicted Chatham, and Fox, and Burke! They disregarded the pomp and brag of the minions of a king! They permitted themselves to think like men! The example should not be lost upon you. Treasure it as a lesson, of how impossible it is for slaves to subdue freemen, if they are resolved to be free, and how natural it is to doubt, but *how miserable a thing is fear!* I am aware, it may be said, our fathers had the arm of France on one side, and the countenance of Holland on the other. But their confidence rested on a broader and a deeper base. If we are indebted to France, in whose lively and elastic constitution is imbued the vigor and the texture of every people, we are far more indebted for the conversation of our privileges, to that "rock of our salvation," the old confederacy. I will agree, the bare name of France was an acquisition to us! It might be asserted, in a figurative sense, that she had been bred in Europe, amid the schools of national law, and took from the precedents which surrounded her the unshaken right of welcoming a new member into the family of nations. I will go further, and concede to the warrior she sent us, the well earned laurel that enfibres and flourishes beneath his silver locks! Yet more—if upon our patriarch Washington we bestow the glory of the founder of a magnificent republic, to his friend and coadjutor La Fayette we will give the almost equally glorious appellation of the philanthropist of the world.

I feel the very mention of these things to have excited a quicker pulse in my heart. Perhaps the reflection of how rapid has been the lapse of time, that every year has carried with it a few of our trusty veterans; that, ere many suns shall set, they must all fade from our longing view, has imparted to me an emotion, which, I confess, is irrepressible. Yes, fathers of the revolution, we have mourned our Washington, and we have but few of you left from whom we can now catch the light of his lamp! May the God of Heaven long preserve you, and the remainder of your days be cheered by the consulation of the honors that now thicken round your declining heads, and the "solace of that anticipation" which dwells upon the gratitude and reverence of posterity.

Could I be sensible it was necessary to submit to you a proof of our love, I would recount the battles of the late war, and the exploits of our youth. But even here we must hail the gracious

interference of Providence, that permitted you to abide amongst us, until you had taught us the precepts you had acquired, by directing us how to receive experience. Still it may be said, without exultation, that we have not been obstinate in persisting against your counsel, or backward in the duty your wisdom assigned us. Nor is it singly, in a fitful instance of bravery, we have shown our respect for your lives. Or indeed that we could evince a settled determination to preserve the institutions you have toiled, so laboriously, to establish. No! whatever the unthinking may believe of the every day notions of patriotism, it never can consist in professions of one sort and practise of another. That is not a love of country, or an adherence to your sentiments, which clings to the parchment, and throws away the moral character of the constitution. Whenever we adopt your constitution to justify our authority, we must take care that the first object of its exercise is the utility of our fellow citizens, and that the intention is to promote the great principles of their civil policy. This should never be lost sight of. We flatter ourselves such has been our course. For it must be acceded, that the very obligation under which you have placed us, compels us to be attentive to the right, as well as the policy, of succoring the soldier of affliction, who befriends the cause of freedom.

Our constant aim, fellow-citizens, should be an equality among men, as well with others, as with ourselves. Upon this fundamental maxim "hangs all the law and the prophets" of our history. Nor is it in any other mode we can ever discharge, to our ancestors, a ponderous debt of affection and obedience. In fact it is a kind of indiminishable, irredeemable debt, that will be entailed upon the thousandth and the thousandth generation.

In all the circumstances, either immediately or abstractedly connected with this memorable period, I am persuaded that you must concur with me in opinion, that, at every stage, they bear an invariable testimony to the principles of social progression. Notwithstanding, it is a philosophy, I will allow, that is much questioned. The objection, I think, requires no refutation. It is the interest of the monopolist, it is the business of kings to condemn it! And all this is quite natural! It would shut out from the one the possibility of his monopoly, and take from the other the pleasures of his court, and the enjoyment of his throne! Who is it cannot see, when it begins to mature, where the pride and paraphernalia of the political bigot are swollen and decked with the patronage of sinecures, and the plunder of his subjects, how it will strip him of his borrowed greatness, and lay him level with the sons of men! Who is it cannot tell, every resistance will be futile, and every delusion unsuccessful! For where is the vice, that, of itself, is not overgrown? or the ambition, whose satiety does not pall upon the intellect, as well as the appetite, and leave it destitute of energy, or so far exhausted, its schemes partake of the weakness of its fatuity, and the wildness of its vision? But you are ready to rejoin with the inquiry, setting aside ourselves, where is the social progression? Where is its illustration? I am free to admit, no people, in their descent, have been more fortunate than the American; I do not allude to the quibbling and senseless distinctions of blood; but to the science it brought us, the arts it conferred, the principles it transplanted. Yet look to France! Is there no evi-

dence there? Or do you suppose her present calm will be an after blessing? Look to the state of England, itself, at this very moment; England, from whom the brightest beams of literature have sparkled, and its widest plane of elevations started at a touch—Look to her! and, although I disapprove the idea, that her *debt* or her *vice* will ever entirely destroy her relative respectability in the scale of nations, her existing temporalities have but two alternatives, *ruin* or *reform*. Is not Ireland her own jealous and much injured vassal? Has she not suspended, in a tremulous anxiety of suspicion, her own *habeas corpus*, and devoted to the mercenary informer the victim of his enmity? Yes—and liberty! liberty! liberty, the people must and will have! Does it signify whether it is Athenian, or Spartan or Roman? Perhaps, it will be cast in the medium between the licentiousness of the former French mobocracy, and the sturdy though high-trained aristocracy of Scotland. But, where is Spain? Had she not an ameliorated constitution, when the gallant Cortez surrendered her to the merciless cruelty of an infatuated monarch? *She came poor but faithful into his hands—she has sunk debased and wretched beneath his feet.* Can she long remain where she is? Her finances consumed, her Garay, like the Neckar of Louis, if not already doomed to exile, held, no doubt, as a mere propitiatory sacrifice to the chagrin of his master, when desolation yawns upon his throne! I say it without fear of contradiction, that revolutionized, she will revive to better days, and take her destined station on the scale of *social progression*!

But, should we not turn our eyes nearer home? I flatter myself the invitation is not disagreeable. For, we must all accord in principle, however we disagree in settling minor points of prudence. A judiciously regulated neutrality is indisputably, the wisest policy on our part: and yet it would be extraordinary, if we did not sometimes differ, as to its extent, or its duration.

But, barely as a justification of the theory I have laid down, I might challenge any one to answer, what will be the probable result of the struggles in South America? At this instant, if we are rightly informed, the patriots constitute a formidable power, while some provinces are wholly independent. Even while I speak, the shouts of victory are yet quivering upon their lips! In Chili, the royal flag has fallen, and not a vestige of its domination is left! Another and another confederate is added to an invincible union! They may now triumphantly demand of the foreigner, "if such a people were formed for slaves?" What the administration of justice is we do not precisely know. But an American, in addressing his friend in this country, says, *it reminds him of the seat of his ancestors!* Glorious news! do they so early begin to gather the fruits of liberty? Ah! a republican simplicity, before even the color of the royal robe is forgotten! Oh! daughters of the South! your tears shall be dried, and your broken hearts will be healed! They may now touch the standard of liberty, and call their persons sacred! And shall not South America, too, have her Washington, her Franklin, her Adams, her Henry, and her Jefferson! Will no conscript Fathers preside in her last and eventful council? I hope so! I trust in God there will! I believe she will be wise and cautious as to the form of her government. This much is certain, she has had her despotism, and witnessed the vi-

olence of its panic and the horror of its catastrophe. It would be a strange conclusion, if, too, with her own bitter experience and our example looking her in the face, after fighting through the straits of tyranny, and reclaiming the home of her parentage, she should relapse into a baser communion with profligacy, and lend her treasures to the prodigal profusions of ambition. But of this, can there exist the least scepticism? I argue, if the patriots fail, it will be a fleeting calamity, and the oldest amongst us will live to see the effects of *social progression*, striding every obstacle to the attainment of that point, where independence would repose, and reason be satisfied. Must not this be the ultimatum? How can it be averted? In no way! If South America could commence a revolution, and defy for years the strained and now straitened resources of the mother country, she is more likely to give law to Spain than to recieve her yoke. The old one may exert every nerve, distend every vessel of her body, it will not all do—repulsed, disconcerted, and disgraced, she must fall back, puny and powerless, into the *convulsive grasp* of her own miseries! As to that worn and festered government, the stale and degraded memento of the Castilian name, is it requisite to adduce to you another fact? Need I recite what her Financier avows, that the very table of the king must be cleared of the rubbish which crowns his feast, but impoverishes the treasury? When he entered the vacant and solitary vaults of the Exchequer, he had too solid a judgment not to discover, how blind and silly was the practice of clapping up a batch of inert and useless appendages, to hang like drawcancers upon his breast. Of course, he recommended economy. And how did it come? For once, a minister more desirous of honorable renown than a lean and paltry power, dared to breathe the truth into the royal ear. "Sire, said he, *your resources are scanty, and your expenses must be lessened! not only of the household, but of the army! yea, of the marine itself!*" The army! the marine! is it possible! why, the bigotted Ferdinand himself admitted the necessity, but dreaded the trial! And yet, Spain, with her army reduced, with her sea-port barriers stripped of the few little ragged sails that still flutter in the wind, would conquer America! I protest it is impossible! I repeat if South America wills to be free, her cruel mother cannot enchain her to the block! She will snap the fetters that encompass her limbs, and dismember the legions that are deputed her executioners!

Let me ask you, fellow citizens, if, after all this, you have any scruple of the theory of *social advancement*? I am induced to think you have not. To confirm this impression, let us, in the sequel, return to a summary consideration of our own country. Here, the proof is final and irrefragable. It is all upon one side; there is none upon the other. Understand me: I do not mean to disturb the predilections of any sect, or the politics of any creed. I have studiously avoided these subjects; and, for this purpose, many others, which are very interesting. I speak of the *social advancement* of our country in the abstract! I refer to that, as the base on which all her success rests! I refer to her condition as a colony, her league as a confederacy, and, lastly, her maturity as a republic. Some of you recollect the first—all of you are acquainted with the last gradation.

It is hardly necessary to remind you, that our

common and our statute laws were, at one time, entirely those of England, except as to some indifferent local regulations. The piles of unmeaning precedents and decisions of Westminster overloaded our benches and perverted the policy of a self action in an enlightened judiciary. A few years, and they have been swept away. I will venture to pronounce the profession consents, the coarser trash has been removed, and the finer materials retained. So, as to this particular, the burthens of our courts have been lightened, and the complexity of legal learning almost completely disentangled. Undoubtedly it is a very important point to be gained; for the habits of our citizens demand the most simplified thesis of their civil and criminal codes.

Again. You may mark the coercive springs which operate in the hands of the people, upon the deliberations of congress at every subsequent session. Is it not very plain that great and abundant changes are, alternately, beating at the public heart? No sooner are the sources of justice confirmed than they set about to amplify its waters, and to conduct them to the causes of universal want. If there were errors in the system, which was new modelled, that were at first overlooked, but have since become so enormous, they require correction, the remedy is carefully applied, in the conciliating temper of equity, and enforced by the coolest dictates of a more ripened and prevalent judgment. Here is to be seen the practical and consistent will of a representative government, working with the happiest aptitude to general and substantial benefit.

By the inclusion of every incipient advantage we could derive by observation, or comprehend by study, we are virtually prepared for an introduction of the similar principles, measures and improvements, a longer association may beget.—The soundness of this argument has been tested by the suffrage of the people. Whenever they have felt the necessity of complaint or reform, how suddenly have you heard it echoed within the walls of this house! Nor can they ever have a servant, who, in the temerity of a desperado, will dare to cast back into their teeth a petition, or a proposition, or a measure, if you please, to which, with one accord, they have given their sober sanction. Do they call for indemnification? It must be granted. Do they cry aloud for retaliation on a foreign government for the insult and injury of a citizen? It must be attempted.—Is he imprisoned? He must be retrieved. Do they require a constitutional change? It must be made. Are their fortunes driven at the unascertained and loose limits of private and public immunities? They must undergo the re-examination and re-correction of reform. In every department of their institutions, civil and military, even from the construction of the most trivial law to the now justly mutilated, but vital character of a treaty-making power, we will find them in our own day touching the defect with an efficient remedy, and beyond the natural extent of our lives, they will continue to alter and amend, when it is proper, to suit a wiser and a more prosperous order of things.

It would be trespassing too deeply on your patience to enter at large into a subject of this sort, that is almost inexhaustible, from the variety of incidents attached to it and growing out of its investigation. But, from the view I have presented, you see what is, and must ever be, the not

less peculiar than enviable lot of our political state. In fine, you have nothing to fear—neither the turpitude of a demagogue, nor the ambition of a tyrant. Your representation can never become rotten, nor your executive infallible! The arts of election may be put in motion, but no man can ever resort to a management, by bribery and barter, that will at all produce any material change in the result. No! your soil, your arts, and your commerce, are teeming upon you every comfort, and you have scarcely a temptation left! Your constitution has opened to you, alike, the roads to distinction, and the means to success are invigorated by the apprehension and abhorrence of vice! Or, if this fails, your laws are so well pointed, and your press so ably directed, the ignominy of detection and punishment would frighten the oldest offender from the perpetration of his crimes!

Go on in your course! Your fellow men will join you! They will assist you to interwine the chaplet of the revolution patriot with the kindred branch of its wreath! And if agriculture can endow—if commerce can enrich—if science can maintain a social progression, and I think it is demonstrated that it can, you will have your sister South America by one hand, and, at some remote era, the now morally palsied hand of Europe will be stretching forth to you the olive of her friendship, as a proof of her redemption, and her admiration of your republic.

From the Bradtown (Kentucky) Repository.
INDIAN AFFAIRS.

The following we consider an interesting paper. Actuated by curiosity and a desire to communicate interesting circumstances relative to Indian affairs, we requested of Mr. O'Fallon, on his return from his agency, an extract from his journal. This we are in hopes yet to obtain. In the mean time we are favored with a copy of a letter now presented to the public. It would be unjust to Mr. O'Fallon to withhold the opinion, that much has been affected by his industry and decision in his agency; more especially as from his youth and the novelty of his situation, little was expected from him. The prompt arrest of the notorious colonel Dickson will doubtless be properly estimated by those who witnessed his pernicious activity during the late war. We learn that he was taken between the rivers St. Peter and St. Croix, whence he was brought to St. Louis, and surrendered to the proper authority. He has since been suffered to return, on giving bonds for his personal appearance. Whether he will stand his trial, or forfeit his recognizance, remains to be seen. In any event, it may be fairly calculated that his arrest having been made in presence of the Indians of the Upper Mississippi, his influence in that quarter is now lessened or entirely destroyed.

Extract of a letter to Ninian Edwards, governor of Illinois territory and superintendent of Indian affairs, dated

Prairie du Chien, Feb. 16, 1818.

DEAR SIR,—Although I have not as yet had any intimation of your having received my last, I resume my pen to address you on a subject which has given me much concern.

You have, I presume, heard of Lord Selkirk having passed through that tract of Indian country, within the limits of my superintendence,

without authority from an authorized agent of the United States; in consequence of which I caused him to be reported to the commanding general at Belle Fontaine.

On his arrival here, knowing that he must have had much in his power, I was induced to put to him many questions; all of which he answered without hesitation, but I am fearful without confining himself strictly to truth. He told me that he had not counselled with an Indian or Indians within our territory. I am informed by both whites and reds that he did—that he had invited the different bands with whom he met to withdraw from the Americans, desert their native country, the sod that covers the bones of their fathers, and reside in his own, where they can listen to the words of the British Dickson, who is at this time residing near the head waters of the St. Peter's.

What do you suppose, sir, has been the result of the passage through my agency of this British nobleman? Two entire bands, and part of a third, all Sioux, have deserted us and joined Dickson, who has distributed to them large quantities of Indian presents, together with flags, medals, &c. Knowing this, what must have been my feelings on hearing that his lordship had met with a favorable reception at St. Louis. The newspapers announcing his arrival and "general Scottish appearance," all tend to discompose me, believing, as I do, that he is plotting, with his friend Dickson, our destruction, sharpening the savage scalping knife, and colonizing a tract of country so remote as that of the Red River, for the purpose, no doubt, of monopolizing the fur and peltry trade of this river, the Missouri, and their waters—a trade of the first importance to our western states and territories.

A courier who arrived a few days since, confirms the belief that Dickson is endeavoring to undo what I have done, *make steep that hill over which I have to climb*, secure to the British government the affections of the Sioux, and subject the north west country to his lordship's terms.

Why are you so tame, so unsuspecting, when a cloud is perceptibly gathering to the north and north west? Why do the heads of departments view with such indifference the Indian department, while the Missouri and northern Indians have yet to count their numbers, be seduced by British and Spanish influence, and we have yet to try their strength. Be assured, sir, the day is not far distant when we shall look upon that promising country as a farmer does upon his fields when they have been ravaged by a storm. Say that our government will not take more energetic measures in this remote country, and we have only to take a retrospective view of what has passed, to prognosticate what is to come.

Of all the Indians in this quarter, I think the Foxes most disposed for peace, most inclined to follow the path in which I have placed them, to imitate the whites, and receive the good effects of civilization.

I have, since I last wrote you, held two councils with the Sioux of the plains, and took occasion to explain to them the object of our benevolent government in establishing a United States' factory at this place. They appeared to be satisfied that it was intended solely for the good of the red skins.

During my tour through my agency I have discovered among the Indian traders more of sys-

tematic villainy than could have been suspected. I have found these men, generally speaking, indifferent to their country's interests, and engrossed in their own. They have destroyed the object for which the United States' factory was intended. Yes, sir, it is a humiliating fact that most of the Indian traders will sacrifice their country's honor, its reputation, for a single skin. There are certainly gentlemen among them, but the number is extremely small.

It is not only those who are called British or Muskinaw traders that are in the habit of secretly annoying us, but, sir, many of those who enjoy the liberty of our blessed country, and claim the right of American citizens! With us they are Americans, among the Sacks they are British, and among the Sioux they are Frenchmen—just as the pulse of the savage beats.

Dickson, as I have before observed, is situated near the head of St. Peter's, to which place he transports his goods from Selkirk's Red River establishment, in carts made for the purpose. The trip is performed in five days—sometimes less.—He is directed to build a fort on the highest land between Lac du Travers and Red River, which he supposes will be the established line between the two countries. This fort will be defended by twenty men, with two small pieces of artillery.

The military force of this place is too small to keep Dickson and his emissaries in check. I think a force should be posted here sufficiently strong to enable the commandant to send a detachment, with a suitable officer at its head, to scour the heads of this river and the St. Peter's, and awe the establishment of lord Selkirk into a proper respect for our laws.

I trust that I have brought about a reconciliation between the Foxes and Sioux of the plains. Several claimants to Carver's grant, near the Falls of St. Anthony, are now here, solicitous to have an interview with the Sioux on the subject of their claim. I am of opinion, sir, that Debuk's mines and Carver's claims will never be surrendered so long as a Fox or a Sioux is able to string a bow; and should it be the case that these claimants are unsuccessful, Prairie du Chien will have seen its best days. The means by which the Indians live must soon be exhausted; they must then resort to other means than the chase, or follow the game, of which this country is barren. The fur and peltry trade is of course decreasing.

I have written to governor Clark on the subject of major Puthuff's interfering with my superintendence, and to know whether he is authorized to grant licences to persons of exceptionable character to trade within my agency.—You have heard, I presume, of my having caused the notorious St. John and Lagutery to be ordered to report to the commanding general at Belle Fontaine. It is strange that an Indian agent of the United States should presume to grant a license to one who had, during the late war, triumphantly reared upon a pole THE SCALPS OF OUR PEOPLE!

On the close of a grand council I held, a few weeks since, with the chiefs and warriors of several bands of Sioux, residing on and near the St. Peters, one of them rose and addressed me as follows:

"American chief, since my remembrance my heart (*medal*) has been that of an Englishman; I have borne it on my breast; I have worshiped it

as my God; but the Big Knives (*the Americans*) returned again, masters of my land. The red boats (*British*) appeared no longer gay. The greedy but *timid* wolf (*still in allusion to the British*) sought the thicket for a hiding place. I became ashamed. I tore from my neck the unfaithful heart: not to destroy it I kept it until the last wantoo, (*winter*) when a difference occurred between my nation and the Chippewas. Some of my young men cried (*suffered in the conflict*).—Their hearts were blackened for revenge. I saw the gathering cloud. I know they still wore and valued much their British hearts.—I yielded mine and dispelled the cloud, I looked back; I looked forward. I heard that the Big Knives had made you our chief. I was told to turn my back upon the *smooth-faced chief*. I closed my ears; I was no longer deceived. I heard of your arrival. I have come accompanied by some of my warriors, to see you. I have listened with attention to your words—such as I have never heard before.—I will remember them, carry them to my nation, and recount them to my people.

"American chief, you have hung upon my neck an American heart; mine feels glad; from this day it is yours. American chief, you talk of visiting our land the ensuing spring. I will be glad to see you—my nation, I am in hopes, will treat you well; but, my friend, believe not that I speak for my mighty nation, which, I am sorry to say, is too much divided, cut up into small bands, which are scattered over an extensive tract of country, and most generally headed by chiefs whose ears are closed against truth, and whose eyes are blind to their own interest, and whose hearts are attached to the designing British. It is not myself alone I speak of, but also for those few adherents who have followed me to see you—I have said enough, I have done. I am going—I will try to influence my tribe in your favor."

Why is it that our government has not made more judicious selections from the Indian department than they have? Why have they not all Americans, men of firmness, enterprise, and possessing inherent talent to counsel with the Indians. Be assured, sir, that a nation is judged by its representatives, as well among the Indians as whites.

I am sorry that heads of department should so far mistake the policy of governments as to make such a disproportion of Indian presents. They most assuredly have been unacquainted with the population within the different agencies, say major Puthuff's, colonel Boyer, that of Prairie du Chien, and my own.

I think it of the first importance that some of the most distinguished and influential chiefs of the different tribes in this quarter, be permitted to visit the president and some of our most populous states and cities. From information I believe that there has not been one instance of an Indian raising the tomahawk against us, during the last war who had previously visited the interior of our country, and been made acquainted with the strength of our nation.

What will be your surprise when you hear that John B. Gyry is at this time trading with the Sacs, between forts Armstrong and Edwards, the same who as I am told, conducted the Indians at the battle of the Sinkhole, where fell the gallant Craig, his daring first lieutenant, and five other

brave men, whose names their ungrateful countrymen have suffered to sleep with their bones.

Very respectfully, &c.

BENJ. O'FALLON, *Ag't.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

From the Albany Register.

GENERAL MONTGOMERY.

The hallowed remains of our beloved MONTGOMERY are removed from a foreign land, where, for near forty-three years they have reposed, "*unknowing and unknown*." From all the busy world who have listened to a relation of his patriotism, his devotion, and his valor; from the host of thousands, who saw with amazement the might of his herculean arm, when raised in the cause of LIBERTY, *one, one only* could point to the sod, under whose favored pall our hero slept. That country to which his manly and generous soul was so exclusively devoted, have received his decaying fragments of mortality to its bosom. In consigning these sacred manes to the protection of our common mother, a grateful people will cherish in their hearts a sweet remembrance of its virtues with an embittered regret at his untimely fate.

We have now, in relation to one of the Fathers of our country redeemed our character from the imputation of INGRATITUDE. All this was due to the bereaved, disconsolate, and venerable companion of our fallen chieftain's bosom, and infinitely more was due to the memory and remains of the devoted martyr to the sacred and imperishable altar of FREEDOM.

The age-stricken WIDOW of our hero yet lives to see the loved remains of her's and her country's MONTGOMERY, removed from the plains of crimsoned Abraham, and deposited in the bowels of a country, at the shrine of whose welfare he proffered all the warmth of his soul, all the energies of his mind and all the mightiness of his strength.

The removal of the REMAINS, was left by his excellency the Governor, to the family of the deceased, and col. L. Livingston, (a nephew of gen. MONTGOMERY) proceeded to Quebec for the purpose. They were identified by the faithful hand of an honest and ingenious *old Soldier*, who attended the funeral, and whose retentive memory, almost half a century after that mournful era, is yet spared to direct the hand of affection to that hallowed turf. MONTGOMERY was the personal and intimate friend of the lieutenant General of the Canadas—was recognized by him after the battle, and favored with a coffin and a decent interment. He was buried within the walls of the city. His aids-de-camp, *McPherson* and *Cheesman*, were both thrown into a hole with their clothes.

The coffin which contained the remains had not fallen to pieces. It appears to have been of a rough structure, with a silver plate on its lid—there is no inscription visible on the plate.—The anatomy in a perfect state of preservation. The skeleton of the head, with the exception of the under jaw, which was shot away, is perfect. Three teeth of the under jaw are together.

General Solomon Van Rensselaer was charged by the governor with the direction of the escort from Whitehall to this city, and rendered the solemnities interesting and impressive. The remains were taken up with great care by colonel

L. Livingston, and secured by binding a tarpaulin close round the old coffin, and enclosed them in an iron bound chest. At Troy they took them from the box and tar cloth, and enclosed them, together with the original coffin, in a most splendid mahogany coffin, made by Mr. John Meade, with the following inscription elegantly engraved upon a silver plate by Messrs. Shepherd & Boyd, of this city, placed on its lid:

THE STATE OF NEW YORK,

In honor of

GENERAL RICHARD MONTGOMERY,

Who fell gloriously fighting for the

Independence and Liberty of the United States,

before the walls of Quebec, the 31st day of Dec.

1775, caused these remains of this distinguished hero to be conveyed from Quebec,

and deposited, on the 8th day

of July, in St. Paul's Church,

in the city of N. York, near

the monument erected

to his memory

by the United

States.

General Van Rensselaer politely waited at the Capitol a number of hours on Sunday, and our citizens enjoyed the mournful consolation of bowing over the mouldering dust of fallen greatness.

The remains were received by the military and civil authorities, at the seat of general Stephen Van Rensselaer, and were escorted to the Capitol, where they were deposited until Monday morning. Captain Lansing's company of artillery were detached as a guard. The procession moved more than a mile in a slow and solemn step. The death toned muffled drum, the plaintive fife, and the shrill bugle, warbled sounds of sorrow to every heart.

The military and municipal authorities were again in procession at 8 o'clock, on Monday morning, and about 10 o'clock took the remains from the Capitol, and moved through State and South Market streets, to the steam boat Richmond, in the following manner:

Marshall—major Ten Eyck.

Military Association.

Major Worth's corps, U. S.

Major Birdsall's corps, U. S.

Captain Lansing's artillery.

Capt. Judson's infantry.

City Guards.

The Reverend Clergy.

Cincinnati.

REMAINS.

Cincinnati.

HORSE.

Relatives.

Governor and Suite.

Lieut. Governor.

Officers of state.

Sheriff.

Common Council.

Municipal authorities.

Incorporated Societies.

Citizens.

The solemnities throughout were dignified and impressive. The different military corps made a martial appearance. The governor and adjutant

general were indefatigable in honoring the memory of the lamented hero.

In addition of what we published in our last number of the funeral arrangement in the city of New York, we give the following extract from the Daily Advertiser:

Yesterday the remains of general Richard Montgomery were deposited, with civil and military honors, beneath the monument erected at St. Paul's Church, by the order of Congress, to his memory. The arrangements for this occasion have been heretofore published in this paper. In conformity with those arrangements, the Governor's Guards, the corps of artillery and cavalry, and the militia officers, together with the different societies, distinguished by their badges and banners, appeared at an early hour, and formed the line in Broadway from the Battery to Chamber street.

The clergy, the students of Columbia College, the Free Masons, the municipal authorities of the city, the members of the state and national legislature, the consuls of foreign powers, the vice-president of the United States, and other characters of distinction, formed a part of the procession.

The line under the direction of the veteran colonel Platt, the grand marshal, moved from the left through Chamber, Chatham, Pearl, Wall, Broad and Beaver streets, to Broadway, thence up Broadway to St. Paul's, where sacred music, appropriate to the occasion, was performed by the Handel and Haydn Society; the funeral service read in a solemn and impressive manner by the right. rev. bishop Hobart, and a short but eloquent eulogium on the character and services of the deceased, the cause in which he fell, and the duties devolving on the rising generation of maintaining their independence, pronounced by the reverend Dr. Mason.

The remains were then committed to the ground, and three volleys of musquetry fired in the church yard by detachments from the artillery, acting as infantry, and from the Governor's Guards.

The pall bearers were colonel Varick, (president of the Cincinnati) colonel Trumbull, colonel North, general M. Clarkson, colonel M. Willett, colonel Fish, captain Tiebout, and general Giles.

The hearse and coffin were very splendid, and were flanked by a detachment of United States' infantry, under lieutenant Belknap, followed by a horse caparisoned in black, and with the usual accompaniments of military mourning.

"In the procession there were probably not less than from four to five thousand persons.—The streets through which it passed were lined, and the windows crowded with spectators. The exhibition was imposing, magnificent, and solemn.

"The appearance of the military was fine—the shipping in the harbor displayed their colors at half mast—the bells tolled a long and final requiem—the Washington 74, and the forts, fired minute guns—and, with an order and decorum scarcely ever witnessed on similar occasions, the city of New York has fulfilled the wishes of the state, and paid the last honors to the memory of a general, who nobly sacrificed his life in leading her sons to battle, in the war of independence.

Arrangement of Music.

By the Handel and Haydn Society, for the funeral obsequies of major general Richard Montgomery, at St. Paul's Church, Wednesday, July 8, 1818.

Organ.—S. P. Taylor, as the procession entered the church.

Dead march in Saul, as soon as the procession was seated.

Solo—Miss Conrad—Air—I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God—For now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept.

During the service—I heard a voice from Heaven, saying, write, blessed are the dead that die in the Lord; Even so saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

After the Lesson—Anthem from Psalm xvi. verses, 9 10, 11, and 12.

Chorus—I have set God always before me, for he is at my right hand, therefore I shall not fall.

Trio—Wherefore my heart was glad, and my glory rejoiced, my flesh also shall rest in hope, for thou didst not leave his soul in hell, neither didst thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Duet and Chorus—Thou shalt show me the path of life, in thy presence is fulness of joy, and at thy right hand is pleasure for evermore.

After the Benediction.

Chorus—Since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead, for as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Learned Women.—One of Daniel De Foe's projects was the education of women. Of the effects of education on females and the evils resulting from the want of it, he expressed his opinion in the following words:

"A well-bred woman and well taught, furnished with the additional accomplishments of knowledge and behaviour, is a creature without comparison. Her society is the emblem of sublimer enjoyments, her person is angelic, and her conversation heavenly. She is all softness, sweetness, peace, love, wit, and delight. She is every way suitable to the sublimest wish, and the man that has such an one to his portion has nothing to do but to rejoice in her and be thankful. On the other hand, suppose her to be the same woman, and deprived of the benefits of education, and it follows thus:—If her temper be good, want of education makes her soft and easy; her wit, for want of teaching, renders her impertinent and talkative; her knowledge, for want of judgment and experience, makes her fanciful and whimsical. If her temper be bad, want of breeding makes her worse, and she grows haughty, insolent and loud. If she be passionate, want of manners makes her a termagant and a scold, which is much as one with a lunatic. If she be proud, want of discretion (which is still ill-breeding) makes her conceited, fantastic, and ridiculous, and from these she degenerates to be turbulent, clamorous, noisy, and hasty.

[*Lit. Pan.*]

American Antiquarian Society.—The secretary of the American Antiquarian Society acknowledges the receipt of a collection of ancient MSS. inclosed in a letter dated at "Newburyport," and signed "A. B." for which he is directed to

present the thanks of the Society to the donor. The MSS. contained early colonial papers of the first importance; and altho' most of them have been already published in the collections of Hutchinson and Hazard, there is one state paper of James II. which we do not find elsewhere, that gives peculiar value to the donation. It is ardently wished that the example of this unknown correspondent may be generally followed, and that old manuscripts, the value of which is ever dubious, or if even believed to have no "intrinsic worth, instead of being used to "light pipes," to which purpose this came very near being devoted," may be sent to some society, which will use them to light the torch of history.

The Ebelling Library.—The Salem Register points to the Hon. Mr. THORNDIKE of this town, as the liberal donor of the *Ebelling Library* to our University. We thank our brother for the information: for here the honorable donor has not permitted his left hand to know what his right hand did in the premises. The donation is as munificent as its use to our country and College will be pre-eminent. We cannot forbear an anecdote on this subject.—About the year 1787, we received a friendly letter from Professor EBELLING, requesting us, after we had used the papers we exchanged for, to transmit such as we could spare to his address at Leyden, to be shipped to Amsterdam. We cheerfully complied with the request, and sent him a large trunk filled with all the newspapers we could collect; the receipt of which was gratefully acknowledged. Some years after, in perusing a volume of his *American Geography*, which he politely sent us, we were pleased and astonished to see the immense use he had made of the papers, which to the eye of a superficial observer would not have appeared to contain any thing from which a statistical writer could have derived any interesting information.

[*Boat. Cent.*]

AGRICULTURAL.

A receipt for making Manure from Clay.—On a spot of clay ground take half a cord of good dry wood, cut it off different lengths, from two to four feet and pile it up in manner of fitting wood for a coal pit, with kindlers in the centre, then dig or cut up the sods around it, and cover over the pile of wood one thickness, next make a channel from the centre of the wood to the outward edge of the circle intended to be occupied by the body of clay. This channel must be formed of sods or turf, and a foot in height by a foot in breadth, in form of an arch—it is for the purpose of setting fire to the pile and keeping up a current of air to the centre.

Thus prepared, dig up the clay round about, and throw it on the pile, covering the whole with an equal thickness, two, four, six, eight, ten, or more feet, and set the wood on fire, keeping the channel open to admit the air; the mass becomes heated in a short time, and the whole body of clay burns until it decomposes and is reduced to ashes; the longer it burns the greater the heat, and the quantity may be increased at pleasure without any additional fuel—care must be taken night and day that the fire does not break forth, and some of the sod or clay should be kept constantly ready to prevent the heat from escaping until a sufficient quantity is obtained (as long as it is fed it will cease burning.) When enough is burned, let it alone, the fire will break out and

soon extinguish. When cool, the ashes thus produced are fit for use, and may be put on clay land in the same manner as wood ashes, and will have an astonishing effect in producing prodigious crops, of either grass, grain, or any vegetable substance. It is a cheap and very lasting manure, and was communicated from a friend in England to Mr. Meriott, near Hudson, from whom I learn this, and who, by actual experiment last year, proved its astonishing utility.

Elizabethtown, N. J.

JAMES RILEY.

[What a pity Mr. Monroe had not seen the following paragraph when he was giving his order for the furniture of the President's house to be procured in France. But the times have changed in the last half century.]

Domestic Manufactures—Good old times.

“NEW HAVEN, MARCH 4.

“At a town meeting holden in New Haven, by adjournment, upon the 22d day of February, 1768.

“The committee appointed in consequence of a letter from the selectmen of the town of Boston to the selectmen of this town, to consider of some measures to be agreed upon for promoting economy, manufactures, &c. report, That it is their opinion, that it is expedient for the town to take all prudent and legal measures to encourage the produce and manufactures of this colony, and to lessen the use of superfluities, and more especially the following articles imported from abroad, viz.

“Carriages of all sorts, house furniture, men's and women's hats, men's and women's apparel, ready made household furniture, men's and women's shoes, sole leather, gold, silver, and thread lace, gold and silver buttons, wrought plate, diamond, stone, and paste ware, clocks, silversmith's and jeweller's ware, broad cloths that cost above ten shillings sterling per yard, muffs, furs, and tippets, starch, women's and children's toy's, silk and cotton velvets, gauze, linseed oil, malt liquors, and cheese.

“And that a subscription be recommended to the several inhabitants and house holders of the town, whereby they may mutually agree and engage, that they will encourage the use and consumption of articles manufactured in the British American colonies, and more especially in this colony, and that they will not after the 31st day of March next purchase any of the above enumerated articles imported from abroad, after the said 31st of March, and that they will be careful to promote the saving of linen rags, and other materials, proper for making paper in this colony.

“The foregoing report being considered by the town, was by a full vote approved of and accepted.

A true copy of record,

Test, SAMUEL BISHOP, Town Clerk.

Receipt for weak and weeping eyes—Make a strong decoction of Camomile, boiled in sweet cow's milk; with this let the patient's eye be bathed several times a day as warm as can be suffered without uneasiness. Persons almost blind have been cured by persevering in the use of this prescription. It is proper however to observe, that frequently 5 or 6 weeks bathing is necessary.

EUROPE.

ENGLAND.

Regent's Levee—America.—English papers say, that on Thursday the 12th March, his royal highness the prince regent held his first levee for the season, at Carlton house. It was extremely crowded by nobility, foreigners of distinction and gentry.

“Previous to the commencement of the levee, after the usual forms of the prince regent's entering his state apartment, Mr. Rush, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary from the United States of America, was introduced to the prince regent by lord viscount Castlereagh, as principal secretary of state for foreign affairs, and conducted by Robert Chester esquire, the assistant master of the ceremonies. His excellency had a closet audience, delivered his credentials, and was most graciously received. Mr. J. Adams Smith, secretary of the legislation of the United States of America, and Mr. Taylor attached to the legation of the United States, were also presented to the regent upon their appointments.” The introduction of these personages recalls to our recollection an anecdote of the king, highly creditable to the good sense and self possession of his majesty.

After the king had been compelled, by a series of disasters, to recognize the independence of the United States of America, Mr. John Adams was delegated to act as their envoy at the court of St. James's. To meet him the king was obliged to offer violence to his feelings. His majesty said previously, that it would be the most trying hour of his life. However, when the hour arrived, the king conquered his repugnance—he received Mr. Adams in the most gracious manner, and after the usual introduction, his majesty said, “Mr. Adams, I have been the last man in the kingdom who consented to recognize the independence of my late colonies—I shall also be the last person to attempt to violate it.”

Mr. Adams was greatly affected, and took every opportunity afterwards of contradicting the opinions then very prevalent, unfavorable to his majesty's personal character.

SOUTH AMERICA.

From the Norfolk Herald, July 10.

CONGRESS ARRIVED.

The United States' frigate Congress, Commodore SINCLAIR, anchored in Hampton Roads on Wednesday afternoon, from Buenos Ayres. Messrs. Graham and Rodney, two of the Commissioners sent out to the new republic by our government, last fall, in the Congress, have returned in her. The latter gentleman, with the Commodore, Mr. Breckenridge, Secretary to the mission, and Mr. Breese, purser of the Congress, came up to town in the evening.—Mr. Bland, another of the Commissioners, who went out in the Congress, remains at Buenos Ayres, in the quality of a public representative from the government of the United States.

The Congress touched at St. Salvador on her passage home, for wood and water, and remained there 8 days. Nothing worthy of remark transpired during her stay. She also touched at the Island of Margarita, where she remained two days. The Island was still in possession of the Patriots, who had rendered it almost impregnable. General Arismendi, second in command of the Patriot forces, had his head-quarters at Margarita.

Anxious to hear some further particulars of the defeat or rather *total dispersion* of the Patriots, as reported in a letter received at Philadelphia, from St. Thomas,* of June 11th—and knowing that the Congress must bring the latest advices from the Main, we made particular enquiries of several of the gentlemen from the Congress, upon the subject; who informed that so far from having experienced any recent reverses, the affairs of the Patriots were never in a more flourishing condition. They had lately been reinforced by a fine brigade of artillery, composed entirely of British troops, which rendezvoused at St. Thomas in New Guyana, in March last; and such was the confidence of all classes, both of the citizens and military in the emancipation of Venezuela, that they considered the event to be as certain as if it had already been achieved. It will be recollected that the letter above referred to, states that about a week prior to the 11th of June "the Independent general Bermudas, attacked Cumana, with all the force he could get together and was totally defeated." Now to show how little reliance ought to be placed in this and similar reports tending to damp the interest which is felt in the cause of the Patriots, we are unequivocally assured that so late as the 22d of June, Cumana had not been attacked by the Patriots; on the contrary it was hourly expected to surrender without resistance, as the Patriots had for some time been closely besieging it, and had drawn their lines to within pistol shot of the town. Brown and Aury had united their fleets at Margarita and were waiting the orders of the Commander in Chief, Gen. Bolivar.

We also learn that the morning the Congress was getting under way from Margarita, a dispatch vessel arrived there from the Main, bringing positive intelligence of the death of the Spanish General Morillo, occasioned by a lance wound he received in the body about 7 or 8 weeks before.

The Congress experienced very stormy weather while in the River of Plate, but met with no accident. She made the passage from St. Salvador to the Capes of Virginia in 31 days, exclusive of the two she stopped at Margarita; and from Margarita she has made the uncommonly short passage of 12 days, and 9 from the Mona Passage. The crew have generally enjoyed very good health.

In addition to the above, the following is given in the Norfolk Beacon:

We learn, from unquestionable authority, that Cumana and Barcelona were closely invested by the patriots, when the congress sailed—the royalists not daring to show themselves without their fortresses; and that no battle had recently been fought between them.

Four regiments of British troops, with twenty-five pieces of cannon and 1070 stand of arms, had recently arrived at Margarita, as an auxiliary to the patriot army, and been sent to the Oronoke. These regiments were all commanded by British officers. A fine sloop of war of 20 guns, also commanded by a lieutenant of the British navy, arrived there a few days before the Congress

sailed, for the purpose of joining the squadron of admiral Brion, or otherwise co-operating with the patriot forces, as might be most desirable.

The patriot flag waved victorious wherever the Congress touched, and the idea of Spain ever being able to prostrate again the spirit of independence which animated all classes of society, was considered futile in the extreme. The respect and cordiality with which our commissioners were welcomed, by the public authorities and people, at all the places which they visited, and the high estimation in which the character and institutions of our government were every where held, gave a strong assurance that they properly appreciated the exalted privileges for the maintenance of which they had embarked their lives and fortunes.

The yeomanry of the country are represented a hardy, independent race of people, and sufficiently intelligent for all the purposes of self government. A love of liberty is zealously inculcated among the rising generation, and a martial spirit infused into their minds, which will be capable, if necessary, of seasonable application.

The Ontario, captain Biddle, with judge Provost on board, was still at Valparaiso, from the last accounts, but on the point of sailing, their stay having been longer than expected. The manly and liberal deportment of these gentlemen, during the gloomy and distressful period preceding the splendid victory of Maipu, has elicited the warm approbation of the merchants in Chili, as well natives as foreigners.

The Portuguese still hold Monte Video, but cannot venture out to forage, except in strong bodies. Their army has been kept pent up within its fortifications by so small a force as 200 men. Artigas and the patriots of the Banda Oriental, wisely profiting by experience, have substituted for pitched battles, and regular military operations, that partizan warfare which, rendering discipline (otherwise so formidable,) unavailing, places upon a footing of equality raw troops and regulars. The Portuguese, in fact, hold no more of a country they have so unjustly invaded, than what they actually occupy with force.

A short time previous to the arrival of the important news of San Martin's victory, one of the commissioners, the honorable Theodorick Bland, set off for Chili, whether on business or amusement we do not know, as it is not stated in the president's message, which seems to contemplate that the commissioners should only pass along the southern coast; and it being expected, that they would all return together. From the circumstance of judge Provost having already visited Chili as a commissioner, it is probable, that judge Bland visits that interesting and delightful country merely as a traveller—we are at a loss to conjecture what else can be the object of his remaining in South America.

The accounts from the Spanish Maine are highly favorable to the patriot cause: It was reported that Morillo had died in consequence of a wound received at the battle of Calaboso. The desertions in this quarter among the patriots have ceased. Margarita is completely fortified and could repel any attempt that the Spaniards could make on it. General Arismendi, second in command of the Seven United Provinces, has fixed his head quarters at Margarita, from whence he directs the movements of the different patriot armies of Cumana, Barcelona, Caracas, &c.—

* Alluding to a letter from St. Thomas, to the Editor of the Democratic Press, which stated the defeat of the Patriots, and death of Bolivar, and denying that of Morillo. We did not publish this letter.

Four complete British regiments have reached the army of Bolivar in Guayana, and have been incorporated with it. A formidable army is in the vicinity of Santa Fe de Bogota which it is expected will soon fall. Brion's fleet has been lately augmented by a frigate, and there is no doubt of a loan of four hundred thousand pounds having been negotiated by the United government of the Spanish Maine with the merchants of London.

General Artega who has taken possession of the country back of Montevideo and Maldonado, is represented as a sincere friend to the the patriot cause, and would have been a zealous co-operator; but being ill treated by the Buenos Ayrean government, he withdrew his friends, and took possession of that part of the River La Plata. Between the Buenos Ayreans and Portuguese he has as much as he can attend to; the latter wishing to make the river the boundary. Artega has had an engagement with a party of Buenos Ayrean troops under baron Oldenburg, in which he was successful.

UNITED STATES.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Marblehead Fishery.—The Salem Gazette gives a comparative and particular statement of the fish brought into Marblehead during the last and present seasons. The following is the total amount: Number of fish brought in last year, 736,600 Do. do. this year, 159,700

Difference in favor of last year, 576,900

Proclamation.—By his Excellency John Brooks, governor and commander in chief of the commonwealth of Massachusetts.

(SEAL) Whereas it has been decided by the commissioners appointed on the part of the British government and the government of the United States, under the fourth article of the treaty of Ghent, that the Islands in the Bay of Passamaquoddy called Moose, Dudley, and Frederick Islands, should be surrendered to the United States—and whereas, it was made known to me, by the President of the U. States, that, as the said Islands are within the limits and belong to the territorial jurisdiction of this Commonwealth, it would be agreeable to him, if an officer were appointed on the part of this state, to be present at the delivery and surrender of those Islands to the U. States, and that such measures be adopted by the authority of this Commonwealth as should be deemed necessary or expedient for the resumption of its jurisdiction.

And whereas in conformity to the foregoing information and request from the President of the United States, lieut. col. Henry Sargent was commissioned on the part of this Commonwealth to accompany brig. gen. Miller, authorized by the President of the United States to receive possession of said Islands in their name: and whereas I have been ascertained of the fact by the said col. Sargent, the officer on the part of this Commonwealth, that the said Islands were surrendered and delivered to the United States by order of the British government, on the thirtieth day of June, now last past.

I do, therefore, by these Presents, make known to the citizens of this Commonwealth, especially those inhabiting the aforementioned Islands, that the state has resumed its authority and jurisdiction in and over those places and the inhabitants thereof; and all officers, civil and military,

are also hereby required to resume and exercise their several legal functions over the Islands and inhabitants aforesaid, as authorized by the laws and constitution of this Commonwealth.

Given, at the council chamber, in Boston, this eighth day of July, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, and in the Forty-third of the Independence of the United States of America.

JOHN BROOKS.

By his excellency the Governor.

ALDEN BRADFORD,

Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Boston, July 9.—Brick Lift.—A machine by this name, invented by Benjamin Dearbon, esq. is now in operation on the inventor's estate, in Federal street, raising the dirt and clay as a well dug. I yesterday witnessed a man, sitting, as in a chair, on this machine, and without much labor, in that position, raised a large full tub of clay, with a heavy man on the tub rope, twenty-two feet—The operation is performed with greater despatch, more safety, and with half the expense of the usual method. The habits of a people cause powerful prejudices against any alteration, however great the improvement, and many are the useful members of society who spend a long life, in ameliorating the condition of the hard working mechanic, before the boon is received. The brick Lift in particular has to oppose a formidable host—ignorance, prejudice, and numbers.—It is however wished, that the enlightened part of this community, with those particularly who intend to build, would give a little attention to this expense-saving and valuable invention. Mr. Dearborn, I understand, offers the use of this machine to builders, on the safe principle of receiving one half the saving it makes from the usual method. [Gazette.

CONNECTICUT.

Connecticut Convention.—On Saturday, the 4th inst. the freemen of Connecticut, met in their respective towns for the purpose of electing delegates to a convention, which is to convene at Hartford in the next month, to form a constitution of civil government. The result of the election, as given in the Connecticut Mirror of this morning, is as follows:—

Democratic Delegates	105
Federal Delegates	96
Democratic Majority	9

NEW-YORK.

The Grand Canal.—We extract the following from the New-York Columbian:

Canandaigua, June 24.

DEAR SIR—I have just come home from the Canal line, on which, before I left, contracts were executed for the construction of the Canal, so far as relates to grubbing and clearing, excavation and embankment, to within a mile and a half of the Owasco outlet. There now remains to be let about seven miles of the line between Utica and the Seneca river; and there is more than eighty-five miles under contract. The disposition to engage in the business seems to become more favorable as the work advances. Many of the best of the contractors have taken new jobs; and other men of the various occupations, but chiefly farmers, make proposals and undertake sections, upon terms, as good for the state as can be desired. Nothing can be more gratifying to all who wish success to the most useful project

that was ever undertaken, by the state, for the promotion of all its essential interests, than to witness the crowd of active, intelligent wealthy and respectable men who apply for contracts, whenever the returns of the Engineer for a few miles of the line, are so far completed as that they may be let out. At the village of Eldridge, having the necessary returns for about fifteen miles, I had more than fifteen applicants; and as far as I could learn, if it had been in my power to choose out of the people within twenty miles of that place, those, who were most likely to complete, in a satisfactory manner, any engagement, which they might enter into, I could not have selected better men. With the exception of three embankments, where a good wall of stone work must be made before they can be completed, all the contracts hitherto executed are to be fully performed by the tenth of next December.—West of the last contract, the Canal line is now under examination by the Engineer, from whom I expect to receive sectional maps and profiles of the route to the Seneca river, within about a fortnight, after which, if I do not in the mean time let out part of it, there is not the least doubt but that it will be all immediately taken up.

Mr. White has explored, with the necessary minuteness, a route for the Canal, on the north side of Lamberton Hill, and has furnished me with a map and profile, on which are exhibited the facts and circumstances requisite to a fair comparison of that route with the route previously located on the south side of the hill. The result of the comparison of the two routes, which I have thus been able to make, has been a decided preference of the south route; and accordingly the south route is the one under contract. Though my last passage along the Canal line, was in part during rainy and unprofitable weather for the employment of many hands by the contractors, from minutes that I took, it appears that the aggregate number of men engaged is about two thousand, and of cattle and horses not far from four hundred. The weather is now good, and the number of hands has without doubt been increased, independently of those who are beginning on the jobs not taken.

In relation to a question of considerable importance, to wit, whether the route over land from Rome to Buffalo was preferable to the making use of the Oneida lake and lake Ontario, as part of the line of communication between lake Erie and the Hudson river, I have obtained the following facts, in addition to those which have, from the first, justified a decided predilection for the overland route: I left Albany last spring on the 25th of March, the very day, on the evening of which, the steamboat first arrived there from New York this season, it having been prevented from coming their earlier by ice in the Hudson. As I went up along the margin of the Mohawk river, I learnt that no boat had then passed upon it, either way, though, from observing the ice to be nearly all out of it, I supposed it was then navigable. When I reached the Canal at Rome, which was the next day but one after my departure from Albany, I found the Canal open, and was informed that it had been so for ten days. Travelling westward, I discovered that the Oneida lake was still covered with ice, and afterwards understood that it was not open for boats till some time in April; and the lakes is uniformly navigable sooner in the spring than lake Ontario.

While I was at Rome, I ascertained from the

books of the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company, that in the year 1809, the first boat passed from Whitestown to Rome and back on the 19th of April.

1809, do. Utica to Owego, (the Oneida lake)	21
1810, do. Whitestown to Rome,	7
do. do. Schenectady to Oswego,	8
1811, do. Rome to Schenectady,	26th March,
do. do. Rome through Oneida lake,	29
1812, do. Schenectady through Oneida lake,	21
1813, do. Utica through Oneida lake,	15
1814, do. Oneida lake to Rome,	13
1815, do. Gilbert's (the Canal at Rome) to Schenectady,	20
do. do. Schenectady through Oneida lake to Cayuga,	13th April.
1816, do. Gilbert's (through Canal at Rome) to Schenectady,	3
do. do. Schenectady through Oneida lake,	19
1817, do. Schenectady to Owego,	21
1818, do. Utica to Owego,	18

The above statement does not shew, with precision, *how much* earlier the Mohawk river and the Canal at Rome are navigable, than the Oneida lake, because there is rarely any business requiring boats to pass the locks at Rome, until that lake is open, and always boats are ready to pass the lake as soon as it is practicable. But the instance of 1815, when a boat actually passed through the Canal twenty-three days earlier than any one passed through the lake, and of 1816, when the Canal was passed sixteen days earlier than the lake, and the ascertained fact that the Canal and river were passable that year, about 90 days sooner than the lake, seem to me sufficient to satisfy us, that the overland will be navigable from two to three weeks earlier, every spring, than the Oneida lake, which, from its being small and not large, is always open several days sooner than lake Ontario. Near the Middlesex Canal, in Massachusetts, are several small lakes, which are uniformly covered with ice from ten to fourteen days later, every season, than the Canal. If the overland route would be navigable three or four weeks earlier every spring, and I am persuaded it would, that fact alone is sufficient to preponderate against every thing that has been said in favor of the route by the lakes. In five days I expect to be again on the line of the Canal.

THE ILLINOIS TERRITORY.

It would appear doubtful from the following extract from an Illinois newspaper, whether the act of Congress for the admission of that territory into the union can at present take effect, seeing that the population falls below the estimated amount of forty thousand souls, and that the act of Congress requires, as a preliminary to the formation of a state constitution, "that it shall appear, from the enumeration directed to be made by the legislature of the said territory, that there are, within the proposed state, not less than forty thousand inhabitants."

(Nat. Intel.)

From the Illinois Intelligencer.

The fact that our population will not amount to forty thousand, having become generally known, we understand that some doubts are entertained as to the propriety of electing members of the convention. The diversity of opinions which prevailed on this subject, was such as to induce us to inquire of Mr. Pope, upon his arrival, as to what were his views on the subject; and he gives it as his opinion that it will be proper to elect a convention, and for them to meet.

And if it should appear from the returns made, that we have not forty thousand, then for the convention to pass an ordinance, authorising an election for members of convention after the last returns shall be made, which are to be made in the first week of December next. And if we then have forty thousand souls, that such convention will have the right to frame a constitution. This construction, Mr. Pope contends, is in conformity with the spirit and intention of the act of Congress: That intention being, "that if we have forty thousand at any period during the time which the commissioners are authorised to take the census, that we shall then be able to form a state government." This construction seems to correspond with reason, and we hope the honest vigilance of the commissioners authorised to take the census will not be suffered to sleep so long as our population is found increasing.

MICHIGAN TERRITORY.

Savage Outrage.—It is stated in the Detroit Gazette, that, on the 21st of May, a party of 12 soldiers stole away from their station, and proceeded to a place about three miles distant, where were encamped a small body of Indians, with their wives and Children, who had come for the purpose of trading, and had sugar, peltries, &c. to the amount of two or three hundred dollars. The soldiers, whose object was plunder, commenced the attack, by knocking down and beating the Indians, a few of whom resisted, and in the contest one soldier was seriously wounded, and a few slightly, with their knives—and some of the Indians were severely wounded, but not dangerously. The soldiers succeeded in taking from them almost the whole of their trading articles. The Gazette adds—"The soldiers have been identified, and a court martial is now sitting to try them and award the punishment merited by their unsoldier-like and criminal conduct.—The affair for which they are about to suffer will no doubt lead to the adoption of such rigorous and salutary camp regulations, as will in future prevent a repetition of similar disgraceful transactions."

A BRIEF SUMMARY.

The United States' Frigate *Macedonian*, Capt. Downes, it is said is under sailing orders for the North West coast of South America, to co-operate with the Ontario, in the protection of the American trade in that region. It is supposed that she will sail from Boston, on her destined cruise, about the first of September.

The Missouri.—The enterprising Col. James Johnson, of Ky. has contracted with the war department, says the Cincinnati Gazette, to furnish rations for the troops to be stationed at the mouth of Yellow Stone River, 1800 miles up the Missouri. He has offered, or intends offering, to convey munitions of war, baggage and provisions, to that point in Steam Boats. By that mode of conveyance, they would reach their place of destination in sixty days, whereas by the common mode, they would not reach there before July or August, 1819. A steam boat, armed with two or three pieces of cannon, and 300 men on board, would make a more lasting impression upon the minds of the sons of the forest, than would an army of 10,000 men marched by land. And should our adventurers come across any of Lord Selkirk's party, they would learn some useful lessons.

The Hon. G. W. Campbell and family embarked at New York, July 13, on board the steamboat *Connecticut*, on their way to Boston, and thence to St. Petersburg.

In our last number we inserted the correspondence of President Adams from the Boston Daily Advertiser.—It is there stated the correspondence is to be continued. We have not yet received a continuation of it, when it comes to hand we shall lay it before our readers.

The United States' frigate *Guerriere*, about to sail for Russia, is to take on board *Silas E. Burrows*, Esq. of Connecticut, as bearer of despatches to our ambassador in Sweden, which are supposed to relate to the pending commercial treaty.

[Balt. Pat.

It is understood the United States' ship *Ontario*, is gone to Columbia River, where we believe a colony is forming.—The mouth of Columbia River is claimed as within the limits of Louisiana. It is in lat. 46 15 N.—The course of the river inland is to the N. E. and it rises in about 55 N. Its whole length is computed at 1500 miles. Its principal tributary rivers are Clark's, Lewis's, and Multomah. The settlement near the mouth is called Astoria. Louisiana is computed to extend to about 50 N.

Office of the Albany Register, Sunday Evening,
July 12, 1818.

AGGRAVATED ASSASSINATION.

With heart-felt and unfeigned sorrow we announce the untimely and distressing death of the gallant major BYN-JAMIN BIRDSALL, of the United States army. He was shot on parade this evening a few minutes before eight; and his immortal spirit left its tabernacle of clay in one hour and fifty-five minutes afterwards. He was shot by a soldier by the name of *Hamilton*, who had been enlisted about 3 months. The murder was deliberate, and the monster exults at its perpetration—he is in prison.

Major *Birdsall* was in conversation with lieutenant Scott, in front of his marquee. *Hamilton* presented himself before them, and said, "*Major, I am here.*" On being ordered back to the ranks, he made ready and discharged his rifle—the ball entered on the right side, passed near the heart, and lodged in the flesh near the back bone.

In defending the rights of his country, this high minded soldier met danger in its most terrific forms—was mutilated in the most cruel manner by having his face literally shattered to pieces—has undergone surgical operations of the most agonizing nature—suffered pains indistinguishable—his wounds but just healed; his prospect of returning happiness had barely begun to dawn, and he has fallen the victim of unprovoked ASSASSINATION.

Boston, July 10.—Mr. Eustis, our ambassador to Holland, was at Liverpool, England, on the 24th of May, with his family, and about to embark for the United States. It was expected he would take passage in the ship *Pacific*, for New-York.

The Bank of the United States, it is said, in order to countervail the great demands for silver dollars to supply the East India trade, are sending them to the mint to be recoined into halves and quarters; these being a denomination of coins not shipped to India.

Our commissioners who returned from South America, in the frigate Congress, have arrived in this city from Norfolk. The president, the heads of departments, are all here except the secretary of the navy. A cabinet council was held on Tuesday, and we believe has been in session several times since. Several interviews have also been had with the foreign ministers resident here. The subject which occupies their deliberation, is undoubtedly the late proceedings of major general Jackson, in West Florida. Nothing yet has transpired from head quarters. Whether the government will assume a responsibility for this novel act of Jackson's, or formally disavow it, and offer reparation, is a fruitful theme of speculation among our knowing ones. We shall content ourselves to wait the determination of those whose business it is to decide. Several writers in the journals of the day have come forward and gave vent to the ebullitions of their own imaginations, without stopping to inquire what evidence the general has to offer in his own defence. This way of condemning public men first, and hearing their defence afterwards, or refusing to listen to it altogether, is, to say the least of it, illiberal. One of these forward writers, assuming for his signature the two first letters in the alphabet, has made his appearance in the Georgia Journal, in a most severe philippic against general Jackson, and in the most unqualified manner accuses him of a total disregard of all law and authority, but that of his own will, condemning every act of his public life—even his conduct at New Orleans, during the late war, does not escape his anathema. That some Englishman, of the character of the famous colonel Nichol, could have written such an article, could occasion no surprise, but how it should have found its way to the public, through so respectable a print as that conducted by the Messrs. Grantlands, is not easy to conjecture.

This writer, whoever he may be, expresses much alarm for the safety of the liberties of this country, thus jeopardized by this act of war, as he calls it, and an accumulation of fifty millions of public debt in consequence, which can only be paid by a resort to taxation.

A writer, under the signature of *Civis*, has also volunteered his condemnation, through the medium of the Richmond Enquirer. He too calls it an "act of war," "a manifestation of a dormant spirit of ambition," and adds that "it will be viewed as an act of perfidy." If these able writers had waited until they were acquainted with the whole subject, it is probable the public would never have been benefited with these productions. What will these writers and editors,

who have been so liberal with their premature censure, say, should it appear that the authorities at Pensacola were the secret allies of these Indians, and that the whole affair should result in a cession of the Floridas to the United States, and an adjustment of all the differences between this country and Spain?

Great Heat.—The weather in this city, on the 11th, 12th, and 13th instants, was excessively warm. Many persons died from drinking cold water. The mercury in the Thermometer, on Fahrenheit's scale, ranged from 92 to 100 degrees, in the shade, according to their respective situations.

In Baltimore, on the same days, the papers state that the mercury, on an open porch, with a northern exposure, and so distant from the nearest house on the north as not to be affected by the reflection of the sunbeams, rose to 100 degrees.

In Philadelphia, in a Thermometer which a gentleman had had suspended in the same place, in his passage, for eighteen years, and during which time the mercury had not risen above 91°, on the 12th it rose to 95°. In other Thermometers it ranged from 96 to 102°.

In New York the Thermometers indicated a temperature of 96° above Zero.

On Monday and Tuesday evenings we experienced some very refreshing showers, with considerable lightening, since which the temperature of the air has been much lower.

Great Droughts.—The South Carolina and Georgia papers, of the first, and beginning of the second, weeks in this month, complain of a great drought prevailing through those states, to such a degree as to threaten the destruction of the crops of grain and cotton. Water was so scarce, on some of the plantations, as to be insufficient to quench the thirst of the cattle.

In one section of the upper part of Georgia, it is stated that a drop of rain had not fallen for 39 days.

MAJOR M. M. NOAH, of New-York, editor of the National Advocate, and late a consul at Tunis, is preparing and about to publish a volume of travels in England, Spain, France, and the Barbary States, in the years 1813, 1814 and 1815, together with a history of our war with the Algerines, and a general view of our relations with the regencies of Barbary. Mr. Noah possesses considerable learning and talents, but, if we may judge from his editorial labors in the Advocate, we should be inclined to think him possessed of too much imagination to write authentic history. We hope, however, that he will, in writing his book, let truth guide his pen.